

REMARKS

The claims have been amended to remove the multiple dependencies listed therein. Claims 1-15 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 7 and 8 are independent. Claims 7-15 have been added.

Applicant respectfully submits that this amendment is not in response to the outstanding Office Action dated August 5, 2008. Applicant further submits that the newly added claims 7-15 are presented for the purpose of provoking an interference with U.S. Patent No. 7,278,244.

Conclusion

Entry of the above amendments is earnestly solicited. An early and favorable first action on the merits is earnestly solicited.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Charles Gorenstein (Reg. No. 29,271) at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37.C.F.R. §§1.16 or 1.14; particularly, extension of time fees.

Dated: October 9, 2008

Respectfully submitted,

By  #39,491
Charles Gorenstein
Registration No.: 29,271
BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP
8110 Gatehouse Rd
Suite 100 East
P.O. Box 747
Falls Church, Virginia 22040-0747
(703) 205-8000
Attorney for Applicant